CANADIAN
MOVING PICTURE
DIGEST

$5.00 a Year

RAY LEWIS
Editor and Publisher

10 Cents Per Copy

Vol. 30, No. 40

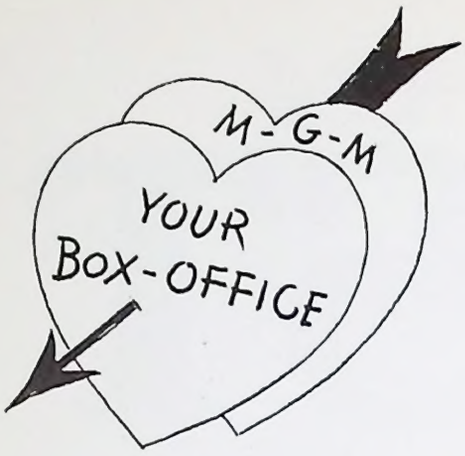
TORONTO 2, CANADA

January 21st, 1939

"YOU'RE A BETTER MAN THAN I AM"

(See "Gunga Din"- - Page 7)

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2



LOVE AND KISSES!

The New Year's fun began with "SWEETHEARTS" that MacDonald-Eddy gold-mine in Technicolor. It's holding over 4 weeks, 3 weeks, 2 weeks setting extended run records. Then came "STAND UP AND FIGHT" with Beery and Bob Taylor packing 'em in nation-wide! And here are more Sweethearts to come!

NORMA SHEARER
CLARK GABLE
in Clarence Brown's
"IDIOT'S DELIGHT"

Not since "A Free Soul" and "Strange Interlude" such a drama for the screen's top favorites! Their exciting lips meet again! Norma...as a "lady in tights"! Clark...as a "ham" song and dance man of the honkytonks!

"HONOLULU"
THE LULU OF MUSICAL HITS!
ELEANOR POWELL, ROBERT YOUNG, BURNS & ALLEN
Andy Ionas Islanders and Hundreds of Honolulu Hula Honies

"ICE FOLLIES OF 1939"
with
JOAN CRAWFORD, JAMES STEWART, LEW AYRES
And the Stars and Ballet of the "Ice Follies Of 1939." An eyeful of Girls! Girls! A heartful of drama!

MICKEY ROONEY
in Mark Twain's
"HUCKLEBERRY FINN"

Huck! Mrs. Watson! "Pap"! Jim! Capt. Brandy! They all live again in this beloved romance of the Mississippi—and the boy who is "all boys in one!"

"THE WIZARD OF OZ"
Filmed in Technicolor! With Judy Garland, Frank Morgan, Ray Bolger, Billie Burke, Bert Lahr!

So glorious, Hollywood predicts it will be as sensational as "Snow White"!

WALLACE BEERY
in
"SERGEANT MADDEN"
The father, a cop! The son, a killer! Tumultuous drama for "Stablemates" star!

ROBERT DONAT, famed star of "The Citadel", in James Hilton's tender best seller—
"GOODBYE, MR. CHIPS!"

"FAST AND LOOSE"—with Robert Montgomery, Rosalind Russell! Hilarious sequel to "Fast Company"!

JEANETTE MacDONALD
LEW AYRES • FRANK MORGAN
in
"BROADWAY SERENADE"

From the romance of a man who wouldn't be known as "Mr. Mary Hale"—comes this lavish modern musical for the alluring song star of "Sweethearts" and "Young Dr. Kildare"!

NELSON EDDY, VIRGINIA BRUCE, LIONEL BARRYMORE, VICTOR MacLAGLEN, EDWARD ARNOLD
in **"DUSTY ROAD"**

1939's Prize Cast in the adventures of "The Hornet" ... Robin Hood of the Romantic West! MUSICAL!

LEW AYRES
LIONEL BARRYMORE
in
"DR. KILDARE ON HIS OWN"
Young Dr. Kildare's second thrill-hit. Staged in New York's dead-end streets!

Walter Winchell Was Right! She's Really "Hedy Lamarrvelous!"

Dennis O'Keefe! Cecilia Parker! In **"BURN 'EM UP O'CONNOR"**! Thrills of the romantic, roaring speedway!

"FOUR GIRLS IN WHITE" with Alan Marshal, Florence Rice! Love secrets from a nurse's diary!

"I TAKE THIS WOMAN"
Spencer Tracy, great star of "Boys Town"...and electrifying Hedy Lamarr in her first picture since "Algiers"! This is THE love match of the century!

THE
MARX BROTHERS
in
"A DAY AT THE CIRCUS"!

Here Come The Clowns! Their best since "A Night At The Opera."

At Long Last! Their NEW hit!
WILLIAM POWELL • MYRNA LOY
in
"RETURN OF THE THIN MAN"

JOHNNY WEISSMULLER
in
"TARZAN IN EXILE"

"THE HARDYS RIDE HIGH"
Each one is better than the last and here's the newest and best of America's most beloved family!
MICKEY ROONEY • LEWIS STONE
CECILIA PARKER

M-G-M CAMERAS WILL SOON FILM THESE ROUSING HITS!

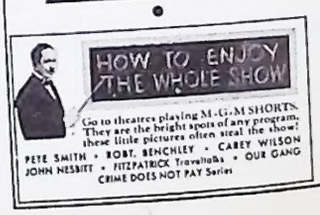
Norma Shearer in "The Women"

•

Robert Taylor, Hedy Lamarr in "Lady Of The Tropics"!

•

Greta Garbo in "Ninotschka"!



Go to theatres playing M-G-M SHORTS. They are the bright spots of any program, these little pictures often steal the show!
PETE SMITH • ROBT. BENCHLEY • CAREY WILSON
JOHN NESBITT • FITZPATRICK Travelltalks • OUR GANG
CRIME DOES NOT PAY Series

The Friendly Company

Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

Established 1915
Publication: Weekly
Subscription: $5.00 yearly
JAMES LEWIS SMITH
Associate Editor

Digest International Press Film Service syndicating 500 leading newspapers in Canada, U.S.A. and Great Britain.

RAY LEWIS
Editor and Publisher

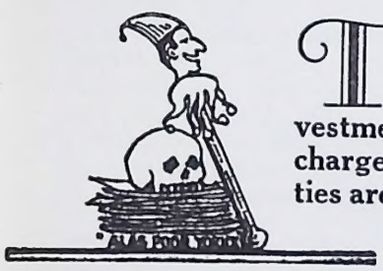
"Easy to Digest"

Published by Canadian Moving Picture Digest Company, Limited
259 Spadina Ave., Toronto
Telephone: WAverley 4929
Cable: Raydigest

Correspondents:
J. J. Conklin, Winnipeg.
Ward Shaftesbury, London.
Alice T. Fairweather, Saint John, N.B.

Vol. 30, No. 40 | TORONTO 2, CANADA | January 21st, 1939

WHAT PRICE "PROTECTION" MEASURED BY DOLLARS



THE downtown houses at Toronto represent a big investment. The carrying charges for these properties are heavy, because these houses occupy important and high-priced property sites.

We note that neighborhood houses are being advertised as first-run houses. This policy will eventually induce people to stay in their own neighborhood for first-run showings, unless the downtown houses are intending to return to vaudeville, orchestras and pictures following a public turn of patronage toward such entertainment.

Let us, however, presume that the downtown houses do not intend to change their policies, with the exception of Shea's at Toronto, the latter house which has always been associated with the policy of vaudeville. What then is this policy of making houses in neighborhood zones assume the importance of being a first-run?

In the case of Famous-Players, let us presume that there is a new house in every neighborhood zone, not affiliated with Famous-Players, and that you are the owner of that house, regardless of the fact that you are, personally, associated with Famous Players. In the event that you severed your connection with Famous Players, you would then, without the expense of building a first-run house downtown, have already established a first-run theatre in a neighborhood zone and a following for that theatre.

Now, we will presume that you are innocent of this intent, but that you are having difficulty in restraining the distribution of product under the old "protection" policy. The independent exhibitors have at last become audible in their protest; and producer-distributors have observed that Famous Players is becoming more and more involved in the direct ownership of product, and more and more independent of the necessity of trading with producer-distributors. The latter have discovered that they are supporting a policy, for the limitation of trade with independents, which will, having weakened the independents, finish the producer-distributors for any "real money" in this territory.

Under such pressure for reform on "clearance" what would you, as the Big Exhibitor, do? Make your second-run house a first-run house, so that the "protection" allowed for first-run houses would be extended to your first-run neighborhood house; and in that way you would still be in the position of keeping product away from independent competitors.

It is a two-edged sword, which is designed for the purpose of giving one Power an advantage whether it "cuts" one way, or the other way.

It is the old "protection" in another form. It should not be acceptable. After the first-run downtown house, which charges a higher admission and has a larger seating capacity than any neighborhood house, "protection" should be abolished, and "priority" of play date in accordance with price of admission and seating capacity should be the policy of film trading. "Protection" for the downtown houses should not exceed twenty-eight days and the maximum clearance for any theatre in any neighborhood zone which operates under the policy of priority, should be ten days. Following such a showing all theatres should be given the picture as speedily as possible.

(*Continued on Page 5*)

RAY PRESENTS

RAY LEWIS

CAPTAIN JOHN D. CRAIG, associated with the filming of "Esquimaux", "Mutiny On The Bounty" and other films, came to Toronto as one of the speakers of the Town Hall Series. His lecture, "Danger Is My Business", replaced the lecture scheduled for Lord Strabolgi, the latter speaker who could not fulfill his engagement for this date.

Captain Craig was dated up for a later lecture, therefore, it may be that Lord Strabolgi will be free to take the date which had been arranged for Captain Craig.

Captain Craig is the typical interesting type of man one associates with personalities which make danger their business; and in case you have not purchased a book by the same author and title, get one, it's a best seller and stirring reading, not overlooking the added attraction, that Craig was born at Toronto.

Craig tells a story of deep-sea diving for treasure and deep-sea fishing for film-making. He has an easy manner of delivery and his narrative holds the interest. A 16 mm. film backed up the story, the film, by the way was thrown on a regular sized screen. Some of the shots were in black and white, some in colour, some were excellent photography, others were blurred. I understand that the shooting of film in colour at the bottom of the sea is an experiment; and the first time it has been done. The screening of 16 mm. on a regular sized screen is also experimental. It shows what might be done with some further experiment.

HOWEVER, aside from the technical value, my interest was directed to Craig's story about the "timid octopus". He told us that our ideas about an octopus were wrong, that is if we were of the opinion that an octopus was out to get its man, or woman. The octopus, said Craig is a timid creature, it never attacks unless it is attacked, or frightened. Craig showed us pictures of a lobster which chased a Mr. Octopus and the Mr. Octopus ran away, but the lobster was persistent and chased Mrs. Octopus, the latter who tried to make a get-away, also.

The aggressive lobster gave pursuit and caught one of the tentacles of the octopus, the latter who struggled to free itself. Finally, the timid, fleeing octopus turned on its tormentor and giving the lobster the benefit of all its tentacles, it then took a good bite out of the lobster, leaving the aggressor quite dead.

Personally, no one, not even such a charming story-teller as Captain Craig could convince me that an octopus was anything else but a blood-sucking grabber. A reptile of a fish that reaches out like a Combine, or a Monopoly, or a Dictator in every direction; and woe to those who, unlike Gilead of my school-book history, have not the presence of mind, nor a handy blade to strike the vulnerable spot.

The real danger for divers, said Craig, came from man-eating sharks, plus lice, plus becoming impaled on coral spikes, plus getting wounded on wreckage, plus cutting your air-line, plus being run into by a sword-fish, or cut open by a manta ray. Outside of these trivialities deep-sea diving is just a nice way to spend a holiday.

It is so still down in the deep you can hear the silence, and the smaller fish are so inquisitive they come right up to you, in fact if you happen to get cut on a bit of wreckage they will feed right upon your hand.

THE smell of blood makes the man-eating sharks smell you out and they become friendly too, but you can frighten them away by blowing bubbles, honestly, that is what Craig told us, bubbles from a compressed air-gun, we saw him doing it in the picture; and we saw the shark disappear. The gun sends out a stream of bubbles, it also makes a loud report and this causes the man-eating shark to take to safer waters.

My idea of blowing bubbles at a man-eating shark is on a par with my idea of looking into the eyes of a tiger in order to subdue the tiger. But who can argue? "Vas you dare, Sharlie?"

The next time I see my friend, Lady Richmond Brown, I'll ask her if she ever blew bubbles at a man-eating shark.

Lady Richmond Brown is a big game hunter, explorer and deep-sea fisherman, or fisherwoman, if you are particular about pointing out the sex. I have seen some films which she has taken on several of her exploring expeditions and during deep-sea fishing. I have read her books and manuscripts, interviewed her many times in respect to sharks, sword-fish, the manta ray, the latter fish which looks like a bat, with winged fins which stretch out like a dragon's wings and which could rip one open in the flash of a contact.

Gertrude Lawrence, in "Susan and God", Coming Royal Alexandra, Toronto

Ray Presents

SOME of these shots in the Craig film were thrillers, but the scenes with the sword-fish, in which a companion of Craig's, by the name of Campbell, sat on the head of a sword-fish, and attempted to pull the body and tail of the sword-fish into the boat, on a wager, made a real climax to the film and the story.

The sword of a sword-fish is as sharp as a rapier, and it has teeth along its edge like the teeth of a saw. That sword can cut through a boat; and to see Campbell sitting on the head of that fish made me feel like standing up for the rest of my life.

The sword-fish that Campbell was riding must have had a hypodermic to render it so passive, but nevertheless, Craig told us that when Mack Sennett saw those scenes, he laughed so hard that he parted with five hundred and two dollars to make this film his own. It won him the Academy Award and that meant thirty thousand dollars. I don't know whether it is all a fish-story, but I do know it was an interesting lecture.

TALKING about big fish, little fish, poor fish, etc., and octopuses, brings to mind the story of Ida Tarbell, who in 1902 wrote the story of the Standard Oil Company for McClure's magazine. It ran as a serial for over a year. Miss Tarbell is now in her eighties, and is writing a book on her reminiscences.

Miss Tarbell's work involved conferences with Henry H. Rogers of the Standard Oil Company. That company at that time was referred to as a Trust, a Combine, a Monopoly, an Octopus. Ida Tarbell was called the Trust-Buster. What she did required courage, and thirty-seven years ago, more courage was required for such a work as hers, than is required now to bust a trust.

Harper's magazine of this month gives the Tarbell story, but we will quote from this story so that you may see how similar are the workings of all monopolies; and that a film monopoly is no different in its operations than an oil monopoly.

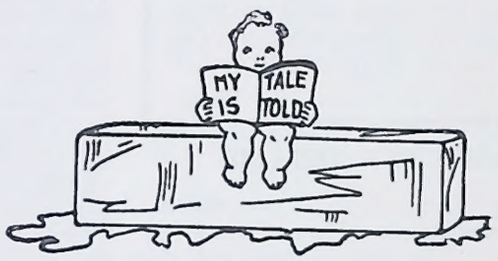
"'McClure's had courage.' How often that remark was made after our undertaking was under way. But courage implies a suspicion of danger. Nobody thought of such a thing in our office. We were undertaking what we regarded as a legitimate piece of historical work. We were neither apologists nor critics, only journalists intent on discovering what had gone into the making of this most perfect of monopolies. What had we to be afraid of?

I SOON discovered, however, that if we were not afraid, I must work in a field where numbers of men and women were afraid, believed in the all-seeing eye and the all-powerful reach of the ruler of the oil industry. They believed that nobody would be allowed to go ahead openly with a project in any way objectionable to the Standard Oil Company without direct or indirect attack.

"Examination of their methods had always been objectionable to them. 'Go ahead and they will get you in the end,' I was told by more than one who had come to that conclusion either from long observation or long suffering.

"Even my father said, 'Don't do it Ida, they will ruin the magazine'. It was a persistent fog of suspicion and doubt and fear. - - - - Almost continuously since its organization in 1870 the Standard Oil had been under investigation by the Congress of the United States and by the legislatures of various states in which it had operated."

Substitute the Film Industry in Canada for Standard Oil and Ray Lewis for Ida Tarbell. She told her story in oil. I'll tell mine in moving pictures. There is real drama in Canada's film history. It will be worth telling!

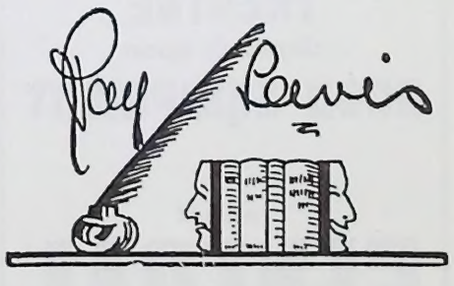


Editorial

(*Continued from Page 3*)

Imagine what interest on their investment producer-distributors would save by getting the money in on their product in one-half of the time which prevails now. If any exhibitor desires to tie-up product after a first-run showing, he should pay the usual rate of interest on what the producer-distributor could earn on such product during such a period of retaining the film.

Have producer-distributors ever computed the time lost in distribution through "protection" periods, and measured this time in money? Figure it out and let us know. We are interested.



Metro's "Great Waltz" in Second Loop Run, Chicago, Smash $18,000, Oriental Theatre.

GOOD-WILL vs. JUNK

THE producer-distributors can save spending their "good-will money" if dozens of houses day after day and week after week, in every big city in Canada have only "junk" to play. The policy which prevails here gives the Famous Players' houses a selection of the best pictures, among which are, of course, some "weak sisters", but hundreds of independent theatres get "weak sisters" only, with an occasional good picture. The argument that the Independents finally get all the best pictures to play is an eleventh hour salvation, but does not create business nor good-will for Motion Pictures in general.

When the Independent exhibitor gets the picture, the print is worn-out, the story is no longer news, the star has divorced her great and perfect love, or walked out of the studio. There is neither finance nor press agent to keep the glamour aglimmering, and the picture is as flat as a cold boiled potato.

NAME NEW THEATRE

Sydney, N.S. — The new theatre now in the course of construction on downtown Charlotte Street, will be opened under the name of The Vogue, according to advices received this week. The theatre is owned by D. P. MacDonald, well known Sydney business man, and proprietor of the Capitol Theatre. It is expected that the house will be opened early in February, according to Contractor M. R. Chappell.

THEATRE PLANNING RADIO STATION

Quebec, Que. — The Classic Theatre here is planning improvements to the theatre to provide a radio station and a restaurant on the premises.

THE SUCCESS
of your
THEATRE
depends upon
GOOD EQUIPMENT
consult
GENERAL
THEATRE SUPPLY COMPANY Ltd.
104 BOND STREET TORONTO • 336 MAYOR STREET MONTREAL

IT IS TO LAUGH

(Wherein we publish a few of the "taller" tales from the studios' publicity departments)

ROSELLA TOWNE lost her housekeeper for a short while, had to hire her back at increased pay because she (Rosella) baked her first cake and left the kitchen in a mess . . . Nat Pendleton is taking a tap dancing course via mail but denies having any aspirations of being a second Fred Astaire. "It's just to strengthen my leg muscles and make me lighter on my feet," the strong man actor explained . . . Asta, the Thin Man's dog, who is back in Hollywood after making a picture in England, is the first passenger ever to upset the decorum of the Queen Mary. Enroute home he escaped from his exercise yard and the ship was searched late at night for an hour before Asta was found curled up asleep in a deck chair . . . Pat O'Brien tells a new "they didn't recognize me" story. Seems when he was filming one of his pictures in which he wore a patrolman's uniform. He didn't change for lunch, despite the fact that he drove in to Hollywood to eat. Then he stopped at a cigar stand and attempted to buy a ten-cent cigar. "It's on the house, officer," smiled the tobacconist. "We never charge coppers for just one ten-cent cigar." . . . Don Ameche can't keep the phoney blood on his forehead for a scene in "Midnight". Claudette Colbert's poodle, Smoky, licks it off . . . Robert Young's tiny daughter, Carol Ann, received a promise from her daddy that she could use the telephone for the first time on her fifth birthday. Young was proud as punch when Carol Ann telephoned him on the set of "Honolulu". But before the day was over, Young regretted his promise. Carol Ann called him to the telephone eleven times by actual count. Now father and daughter have a new agreement. She can telephone him once a day, just before her afternoon nap . . . And so on, far, far into the night.

GOOD-BYE, MR. BENNETT

REPRESENTATIVE citizens of Ontario, Liberals, Conservatives, C.C.F., and Socialists, men of the professions, of science, of art, of trade and of finance, big merchants and little merchants, senators and commoners, seventeen hundred, sat down at a banquet at the Royal York Hotel, Monday evening, to break bread and to taste salt, in tribute to a statesman who had served his country in many public offices, climaxing this service as the Prime Minister of Canada from 1930 to 1934. The Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, P.C., L.L.D., D.C.L., K.C., M.P., retires from Canada's parliament because of ill health; his home is to be in England. Good-bye, Mr. Bennett, and long life, to the Earl of Calgary?

RULE AGAINST UNION IN DAMAGE SUIT

Vancouver, B.C.—Hollywood Theatres Ltd., operating the Hollywood Theatre here, were awarded damages to the extent of $2,000 by Justice D. A. McDonald in Supreme Court recently. Judgment was given against Vancouver, New Westminster and District Trades and Labor Council, and the B.C. Projectionists' Union, for picketing the plaintiff's theatre last May. In addition, his lordship made permanent an injunction which he granted on June 21, restraining the defendants from picketing or otherwise interfering with the business of the Hollywood Theatre and also from publishing defamatory statements. The defendants contended that under a contract entered into between the theatre company and the union on Oct. 5, 1937, at least one member of the union should be employed as a projectionist. His lordship, however, upheld the plaintiff's contention that union members should be employed when members of the family owning and operating the theatre were not available.

FILM DAILY POLL NAMES "TEN BEST"

New York, N.Y.—The 17th annual poll conducted by the Film Daily to select the "Ten Best" pictures of the past year, is completed. 536 newspaper, syndicate and magazine critics and reviewers voted on 460 eligible productions. The following are the "Ten Best" as selected by the poll, and the number of votes they received.

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (RKO-Disney)	419
"You Can't Take It With You" (Columbia)	372
"Alexander's Ragtime Band" (20th Century-Fox)	324
"Boys Town" (M-G-M)	313
"Marie Antoinette" (M-G-M)	287
"In Old Chicago" (20th Century-Fox)	243
"The Adventures of Robin Hood" (Warners)	218
"The Citadel" (M-G-M British)	210
"Love Finds Andy Hardy" (M-G-M)	180
"The Hurricane" (Goldwyn-U.A.)	172

Heading the honor list is Warners' "Four Daughters", with 168 votes, just four behind "The Hurricane".

Rudyard Kipling's "Gunga Din" RKO's Thriller

Produced by RKO Radio Pictures, Pandro S. Berman in Charge of Production. Directed by George Stevens. Cast—Cary Grant, Victor McLaglen, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Sam Jaffe, Eduardo Ciannelli, Joan Fontaine. Story by Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur. Screen play by Joel Sayre and Fred Guiol.

THE STORY

INSPIRED by Kipling's heroic lines, "You're a better man than I am, Gunga Din!", RKO Radio has produced a story of breathless adventure, starring "The Sergeants Three" — "Cutter", Cary Grant; "MacChesney", Victor McLaglen; "Ballantine", Douglas Fairbanks Jr.

The film opens with the massacre of a British patrol on the northwest border of India by tribal fanatics in a revival of the ancient murder religion of Thuggee. Three sergeants, Cutter, MacChesney and Ballantine, are sent from headquarters with a few native troops, are attacked and only escape with their native water carrier, Gunga Din, after a terrific fight. Ballantine, the youngest of the trio, tells his pals that he plans to leave the army and marry Emmy (Joan Fontaine), daughter of a tea planter. His two pals, Cutter and MacChesney, prevent his immediate retirement, by putting elephant medicine in the punch at a regimental party, thus making him the only sergeant available for the next expedition.

The three are sent back to the village, and Cutter proposes a dangerous hunt for treasure, on a tip from Gunga Din. MacChesney knocks him out and has him locked in the local jail to prevent his daring venture. Gunga Din releases Cutter from jail with the aid of an elephant, which knocks down the walls. Cutter and Gunga Din go out after the treasure, to its hiding place, a Thuggee cult temple. Cutter is captured by the Thugs and Gunga Din goes back to bring MacChesney and Ballantine to the rescue.

Emmy meanwhile has arrived at the front with Ballantine's discharge papers, but MacChesney hoaxes Ballantine into signing a new enlistment, Ballantine, however, keeping the papers. The two sergeants and the water carrier, go to the Temple, are captured and thrown into the torture chamber with Cutter. MacChesney pretends treachery to his companions, gets the Thugs to secure Ballantine's enlistment papers. He then turns on the Thugs, seizes the papers, makes the Thug leader his captive, and sergeants and Gunga

Din reach a tower where they hold him hostage. Finally, after a terrific period of suspense, they hear a large force of Britishers coming to save them. The Thug chieftain orders his natives to ambush the troops, and commits suicide. Gunga Din escapes, blows his bugle, and the troops are saved from surprise.

Ballantine impulsively uses his reenlistment papers, postponing his romance with Emmy. The British soldiers bury their dead, and Cutter, MacChesney and Ballantine hold a separate ceremony over the lowly water carrier who saved their lives, at which a young war correspondent, Rudyard Kipling — reads the immortal lines which made tradition: "You're a better man than I am, Gunga Din!"

You may talk o' gin an' beer
When you're quartered safe out 'ere,
An' you're sent to penny-fights an' Aldershot it;
But when it comes to slaughter,
You will do your work on water,
An' you'll lick the bloomin' boots of 'im that's got it.
Now in India's sunny clime,
Where I used to spend my time
A-servin' of 'Er Majesty the Queen,
Of all them black-faced crew
The finest man I knew
Was our regimental bhisti, Gunga Din.
He was "Din! Din! Din!
You limpin' lump o' brick-dust, Gunga Din!
Hi! sleppey hitherao!
Water! get! Panee lao!
You squidgy-nosed old idol, Gunga Din!"

I sha'n't forgit the night
When I dropped be'ind the fight
With a bullet where my belt-plate should 'a' been.
I was chokin' mad with thirst,
An' the man that spied me first
Was our good old grinnin', gruntin' Gunga Din.
'E lifted up my 'ead,
An' 'e plugged me where I bled,
An' 'e guv me 'arf-a-pint o' water-green;
It was crawlin' an' it stunk,
But of all the drinks I've drunk,
I'm gratefullest to one from Gunga Din.
It was "Din! Din! Din!
'Ere's a beggar with a bullet through 'is spleen;
'E's chawin' up the ground,
An' 'e's kickin' all around:
For God's sake git the water, Gunga Din!"
'E carried me away
To where a dooli lay,

An' a bullet come an' drilled the beggar clean.
'E put me safe inside,
An' just before 'e died:
"I 'ope you liked your drink," sez Gunga Din.
So I'll meet 'im later on
At the place where 'e is gone —
Where it's always double drill an' no canteen;
'E'll be squattin' on the coals,
Givin' drink to pore damned souls,
An' I'll git a swig in hell from Gunga Din!
Yes, Din! Din! Din!
You Lazarushian-leather Gunga Din!
Though I've belted you an' flayed you,
By the livin' Gawd that made you,
You're a better man than I am, Gunga Din!

—RUDYARD KIPLING.

How long is it sin

« Current Attraction »

Radio City Music Hall

ou've had a show that really eserved a big special campaign?

Along comes RKO RADIO with a show deserving of the biggest and best you can give it!... A picture to back up all promises!... A remarkably fine production!... In all his career John Barrymore never gave more to a role—nor played a role that had more to take!... The story of a man whose single vote controlled a big election ... a highbrow hobo in disgrace... laughed at by the town... loved loyally by his motherless kids!...Tell your folks to come expecting OUTSTANDING ENTERTAINMENT... They'll get it!

THE GREAT MAN VOTES

with

John Barrymore

Peter Holden • Virginia Weidler

Donald MacBride • Katharine Alexander

Pandro S. Berman in Charge of Production

Digest Reviews and Previews

★★★ Excellent ★★ Very Good ★ Good • Fair or Poor

★ ★ ★

"SPRING MADNESS"

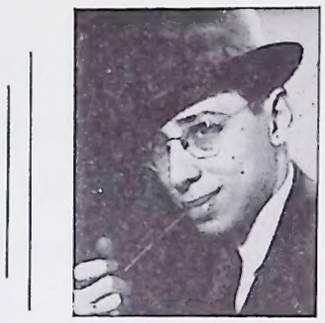
METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

SEEN as the companion picture to "The Young in Heart" at Loew's, Toronto, this week, "Spring Madness" showed a drastic departure from the usual type of college romance films. Outstanding feature of the production is the work of Maureen O'Sullivan and that of Burgess Meredith. Neither of these two players have ever showed to better advantage on the screen, and for Miss O'Sullivan it will probably mean stardom, and for Burgess Meredith, permanent postponement of his return to the stage. Meredith's performance in the film version of "Winterset" was hailed as a dramatic triumph by all leading critics. But in a comedy role such as he plays in "Spring Madness", he will certainly prove a healthy draw. As for Lew Ayres, this is not the best role he could have been given, but he fills it most satisfactorily.

Sam Thatcher (Lew Ayres) and "The Lippencott" (Burgess Meredith), seniors at Harvard, have been saving ever since their freshman year for a trip to Russia, immediately on graduation; but in his last year Sam has fallen in love with Alex Benson (Maureen O'Sullivan). The tickets on a freighter are bought, the visas passed, and all is in readiness for the Great Adventure, save for the fact that the Spring Dance at Alex' college takes place the day before they sail, and Sam has promised to attend. He decides he had better go up to the college and explain in person to Alex why he can't attend the dance, and also to tell her about the trip, which so far she knows nothing about. "The Lippencott", determined that nothing will keep Sam from the boat, follows him to the school. Heart-broken at the news, Alex seeks solace with her girl friends, who cook up a scheme to keep Sam and "The Lippencott" from the boat. The plan succeeds with the help of one of the instructors, Walter Beckett (Truman Bradley), who pretends to be in love with Alex to arouse Sam's jealousy. "The Lippencott" tears his hair out.

Supporting the principals are Ruth Hussey, Ann Morris, Joyce Compton, Jacqueline Wells, Frank Albertson, Marjorie Gateson, Renee Riano, Sterling Holloway and Dick Baldwin. Of course, Joyce Compton as the campus flirt is the pick, with Holloway and Baldwin as two Yale men turning in swell comedy bits.

S. Sylvan Simon directed the films,



"JAY L"

and much of its success is due to his educated megaphone. The direction is brilliant, and with all the players practically "tailored to measure" for their respective parts, the result is a most entertaining picture.

Exhibitors are likely to cash in considerably on Lew Ayres' current popularity as a result of his work in "Holiday" and "Young Dr. Kildare", while both Ruth Hussey and Ann Morris have had the feminine lead in recent Metro-Goldwyn pictures. Jacqueline Wells is very popular in Columbia action thrillers.

Running time—67 minutes.

★ ★ ★

"THE GREAT MAN VOTES"

RKO RADIO

GARSON KANIN, the youthful director, whose last picture, "A Man to Remember", has been hailed by critics and general public alike as a directorial masterpiece, now gives us another production of the same type. Not a million dollar production so far as cost is concerned, this picture is the sort that will build with word-of-mouth advertising, until it reaches major proportions at the box-office.

John Barrymore, that great veteran of stage and screen has a role that seems written for him, and him alone. His performance is brilliant, and will receive the plaudits of press and public. The film also serves to introduce to screen audiences young Peter Holden, whose performance in the Broadway production of "On Borrowed Time" amazed the most blase drama fans. In addition there is Virginia Weidler, last seen in "Out West with the Hardys", and Donald MacBride who made his screen debut in "Room Service".

Barrymore is a former Harvard professor, a brilliant man of letters who has degenerated to a night watchman, and a quart-a-day man since the death of his wife. His two children, Peter and Virginia, are always getting into fights at school, because they stand-up for their dad, avowing that he is a "great man". When it is discovered that Barrymore is the only voter in the 13th precinct of his ward, the Party gives him a tremendous ballyhoo in the newspapers, in order to swing the election. As an inducement to vote the "right" way, he is offered the position of commissioner of schools, which he accepts much to the delight of his children. There is an additional theme in which their late mother's family endeavour to take them out of their father's custody, but the new commissioner defeats this. Romance is suggested between Barrymore and Kathleen Lockhart, the children's school teacher.

It is difficult to judge from the above synopsis the true entertainment of the picture, but I assure you that you and your patrons will enjoy it 100 percent. As a burlesque on the American electorial system, it is a riot, and the fine work of the principals, plus Kanin's direction ensure a big success for this picture.

Others in the cast include Benny Bartlett, Luis Alberni, Clarence Kolb and J. M. Kerrigan.

Running time—70 minutes.

★ ★ ★

"THE YOUNG IN HEART"

SELZNICK - U. A.

THOSE of you who read "The Gay Banditti", by I. A. R. Wylie, when it ran as a serial in the Saturday Evening Post, will recall it as a delightfully humorous tale, containing an abundance of whimsical humour, and a goodly portion of human interest. The public will find it quite a contrast to the dizzy cycle of comedies that have been prevalent for the past few months, and therein lies the film's greatest asset. It is DIFFERENT, and handled properly will make the box-office sing a DIFFERENT tune, and a HAPPY tone.

Given star listing are Janet Gaynor, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and Paulette Goddard, but the featured supporting cast of Roland Young, Billie Burke, Minnie Dupree and Richard Carlson deserve the title of "star" as well as the aforementioned three. Story deals with the "Carleton" family, "Sahib", played by Roland Young, "Marmy", played by Billie Burke, Ricky (Doug. Fairbanks, Jr.), and George-Anne (Janet Gaynor). The family live by their wits, "Sahib" winning money by playing not-too-honest poker, always in the hope that they can marry Ricky off to an heiress, or George-Anne to a millionaire. The family meet Miss Ellen Fortune (Minnie Dupree), a wealthy old lady who takes a liking

Digest Reviews and Previews

to them, and invites them to live with her in London. They conspire to get so in the old lady's good graces that she will leave her fortune to them when she dies. "Sahib" and Ricky even taking jobs, a hitherto unheard-of practise. In the meantime Ricky meets and falls in love with Leslie Saunders (Paulette Goddard), a secretary, and George-Anne falls in love with Duncan MacCrae (Richard Carlson), not a millionaire. It looks as if the plan of the Carleton's has succeeded, when Miss Fortune tells George-Anne that she is leaving her entire estate to them, but when she takes seriously ill, the Carletons, much to their own amazement, find they are not as tough as they thought they were, and pray for her to get better. She recovers, and having lost all her money, goes to live with the Carletons, who for the first time in their lives are standing on their own feet, with Ricky married to Leslie, and George-Anne to Duncan.

All the players do fine work, with the performances of Minnie Dupree, veteran Broadway star, and that of Richard Carlson, another Broadway recruit, standing out.

The direction by Richard Wallace, and general production value are first rate; photography, excellent.

Running time—90 minutes.

SHORT SUBJECTS

"STAR DUST"

VITAPHONE

STARRING Benny Davis, this week at Shea's, Toronto, in person, this two-reeler is a typical "Broadway Brevity", with the usual routines seen in this type of subject. Benny Davis presents a rather good trio of girl songbirds, a dance team on stilts, a comedy ball-room pair, and various other acts of similar nature. Davis himself sings a medley of the songs that made him famous, including "Baby Face", "Margie", "Carolina Moon" and "Chasing Shadows". Good short of its type.

Running time—22 minutes.

THANKS, MR. DUNNING

For your cheque for $10.00, covering two subscriptions to The Digest, one to be delivered to your theatre, the Park, Verdun, Que., and the other to your private address.

"NATURE'S MIMICS"

VITAPHONE

LATEST in Vitaphone's new Color Parade series, this subject shows the various animals and birds imitating Man. Pictured are the storks, seals juggling, bulls racing, elephants smoking pipes and playing harmonicas, monkeys at play, and birds doing a dozen clever stunts. The subject matter is excellent, but the commentory by Eddie Acuff is on the feeble side.

Running time—1 reel.

"MAN'S GREATEST FRIEND"

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

IT is generally recognized that Pete Smith, narrator and producer of the Pete Smith Specialties for M-G-M, has done more for "Man's Greatest Friend", the dog, than any one man during the past ten years or so. He has made the dog the hero of many of his shorts, including a very fine one on the "Seeing Eye" dogs. This present subject shows the devotion of dogs to their masters, especially of a dog-soldier, whose heroism on the battlefield was worthy of a Congressional Medal. This is a fascinating subject, and very well presented.

Running time—10 minutes.

"THREE MEN IN A TUB"

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

AN "Our Gang" comedy, with Spanky, Alfalfa, and the whole gang up to their usual capers. This time Alfalfa challenges his rival to a boat race. The results are disastrous. Good to see the Gang always.

Running time—11 minutes.

PERSONAL MUSINGS

MOST amusing advertisement we have seen in some time, was one that appeared in a recent issue of the Hollywood Reporter. The advertisement was for the New Follies Burlesque Theatre in Hollywood. The ad read, "This week it's: 'ODDITEASE IN THE NUDES".

E. L. McEvoy, Eastern and Canadian Sales Manager, RKO Radio, was in Toronto this week for conferences with Canadian General Manager Leo M. Devaney, Toronto Branch Manager Frank Meyers, and other members of the Toronto staff. Preparations are underway for the start of the George J. Schaefer Sales Drive, which opens January 28. Last year, in the Ned E. Depinet Drive, the Toronto office was tied for second place with Vancouver.

W. Yates, the new manager of the Majestic, Dundas, was a Toronto visitor this week.

L. J. Gauthier, for seven years with the Capitol Theatre, North Bay, Ont., has been transferred to the assistant managership of the Capitol, Sudbury, manager S. R. Scott.

As a drama, Monogram's "Rose of the Rio Grande", which played the Avenue, Toronto, last week, was a swell comedy. The patrons laughed, and laughed, and laughed.

"Jay L."

NORANDA HOUSE CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

Noranda, Que.—The Noranda Theatre here last week celebrated its tenth anniversary. Built by Noranda Mines Limited it was operated by them for almost nine years under the capable management of Charles Campbell. In the fall of 1937 it was taken over by Famous Players and David Korman. The present manager is George M. Davey, formerly of Toronto.

Scenes from the RKO Radio production, "The Great Man Votes", starring John Barrymore, with Peter Holden and Virginia Weidler.

A REQUEST has been sent to Provincial Censor Boards across the Dominion of Canada from the German Consulate at Ottawa, re "Professor Mamlock". "The German Consulate General would be very grateful if you would see to it that the picture was not permitted to pass".

"Professor Mamlock", which is currently being shown at the Strand, Toronto, is a Soviet film, and the German claim is that it was produced for the purpose of showing the Germans in a bad light. However, since the film presents but a small measure of the truth of brutal treatment on the part of the Nazi Government, the German protest against the film takes on the nature of a protest against the present form of Nazi Government.

PERSONAL notes: Saw Billy Summerville, of the Prince of Wales Theatre after the R. B. Bennett Testimonial Banquet. Seems there will be a new marquee at the Prince of Wales, to be completed soon. Billy Summerville looked well - and beaming . . . T. J. Bragg also at the Bennett Dinner . . . Syd Taube's very attractive daughter, Bernice, now off on a southern honeymoon with her husband, Mr. Zachs. Understand the Leon Schlesingers (Warners) were present at the wedding . . . Also saw Jules Levy's sister, now Mrs. Oscar James, at Toronto, just back from a honeymoon in the sunny south . . . Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., is at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto. Among other things, he writes stories on the stars. Says he'll be in and around these parts for the next few months, gathering "locale" for his new novel with a Canadian background.

By MERRYL LEA

"THE Lady Vanishes" which has played to such capacity business at the Eglinton Theatre, Toronto, is quite a picture. A beautifully directed mystery plot, with credit for such direction going to Alfred Hitchcock, it is now in its third week at this playhouse. The Eglinton Theatre, a suburban house, frequently plays a first-run. It will be rather interesting to watch what the policy will be in connection with theatres in the matter of "clearances" when first-runs are booked into suburban houses.

ON the Little Theatre Movement, which is becoming increasingly active in Canada, we learn that Miss Nella Jeffries has been elected President of the national organization. This is the first time that a woman has been elected to fill this post. Miss Jeffries, a retired actress, has been doing much adjudicating work throughout the Dominion in connection with the Drama Festivals.

VAUDEVILLE seems to be staging a comeback, with Shea's, Toronto, back to the "in the flesh" policy. Business during Xmas and New Year's weeks, when the new policy was inaugurated, was particularly good, with box-office since then holding its own. This week Benny Davis and his Star Dust Revue, 20th Century-Fox's "Thanks for Everything", and a special Jitterbug Contest with cash prizes, comprise the bill of attraction. Loew's, at Montreal, has booked vaudeville for the past few months. The Beacon Theatre, Winnipeg, and the John Holden Players at the Dominion Theatre in the same city, provide shows other than film fare. The Beacon, Vancouver, features Senator Fishface, of NBC "Senator Fishface and Prof. Figgsbottle" program.

HOLDOVER wave at Winnipeg, with "You Can't Take It With You" in its fourth week at the Garrick; "Sweethearts" held over at the Capitol; and "La Maternelle", French film at the Times Theatre, playing extended run. At Toronto, "The Lady Vanishes" is in its third week at the Eglinton; "Professor Mamlock", Soviet film handled by Cosmopolitan Films, is playing a second week at the Strand, and "The Dybbuk" is playing a third week at the College Playhouse. "The Beachcomber", a Mayflower Production, starring Charles Laughton, looks like another English triumph. Incidentally, the latest patron complaint is: "Let's not go to that movie, it's so good that there are crowds always standing in line. I don't want to freeze."

THE Winnipeg Free Press is again conducting its "Popularity Ballot" in order to select the new King and Queen of the Movies. Last year Winnipeg Free Press readers chose Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy, although the poll taken in United States and Canadian cities, gave the "crowns" to Myrna Loy and Clark Gable. Results will be announced as soon as possible after January 20th.

British Columbia - - 1912

Motion Picture Delegation at Victoria, B.C., assembled for the discussion of impending legislation, June 5th, 1912, reading from left to right, and their positions at that date:

Mr. Christie, Majestic Theatre, Victoria; Mr. Ivan Shortcoat, Mission Theatre, North Bend; Mr. Bill Hansher, Maple Leaf Theatre, Vancouver; Mr. J. Holdsworth, Mutual Films, Vancouver; Mr. W. Carriveau, Grandview, Vancouver.

In rear: Mr. F. L. Kerr, Edison Theatre, New Westminster; Mr. J. R. Muir, Dominion Theatre, Vancouver (now Strand, F.P.C.C.); Mr. W. P. Dewees, Princess Theatre, Vancouver; Mr. Syd Taube, Canadian Film Exchange; Mr. Meagher, General Films.

British Columbia - - 1939

January 9th, 1939.

Telephone: North 1474.

NOVA THEATRE, LTD.

1421 Lonsdale Ave. - North Vancouver

Canadian Moving Picture Digest,

259 Spadina Avenue,

Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Madam:

In reply to your favor of December 29th ..... I was taken for a very glorious ride by our dear and Mutual friend and his interests when I signed up contracts last January, "Nuf said".

What I cannot understand is the advertisements of M-G-M handled by Regal Films in Canada; for several issues they have been trying to put over the fact that they are the Friendly company, and here is what they pulled on an exhibitor who played all of their 1938 product and 60% of the 1937 commitment, and all at heartbreaking prices:—without even a chance to sign up for 1939, they sell it to the opposition house, and the reason given is that I belong to a combine, "The Independent Booking and Buying Circuit".

You asked how we are getting along, and the above paragraph just about sums up the answer.

In your recent editorial our organization was very interested, and if you make a visit to Vancouver you will receive all the co-operation that the independents can give. This is coming up at the meeting on Thursday, and you will be hearing from us in the very near future collectively. .....

With best wishes for a prosperous and happy 1939.

Cordially,

D. L. McMILLAN,

Sec. Treas. I.B.&B. Circuit.

THE alibi which calls the Independent Booking & Buying Circuit of Vancouver, a Combine, because a group of exhibitors have formed an association to buy pictures as a group, is contradictory to the attitude adopted in the Province of Ontario toward "co-operative" buying. There are at least two "co-operative" groups operating in Ontario. One headed by Oscar Hanson, originated by the late Bud Lennon about nine years ago, and the other, headed by Nat Taylor, and formed a few years ago at the time Hanson forced Nat Taylor out of his group. Both organizations have been accepted by the distributing companies who sell them pictures.

Mr. N. L. Nathanson personally sponsored the Oscar Hanson group, and in view of the fact that Mr. Nathanson is the President of Famous Players, etc., which Independents consider their BIG OPPOSITION; that he personally owns the Canadian franchise of product, the policies which he supports are generally the policies which are adopted by the producer-distributors who are directly and indirectly affiliated with him, or his interests through booking and theatre agreements.

This "co-operative" situation in British Columbia is difficult to understand. If it is proper for Exchanges to sell to the "co-operatives" in Ontario, what's wrong with this policy in British Columbia? Your Editor analyzes it down to this point; in British Columbia your "co-operative" is of no advantage to Mr. Nathanson because he is not in control of it, whereas in Ontario his affiliation with the "co-operatives" gives him an outlet for the product which his exchanges distribute and secures product for the "independent" theatres with which he is associated. This gives him added power to control the real independent exhibitors through the further absorption of product, and narrows down the field of independent distribution for producer-distributors. Of great importance is the fact that N. L. Nathanson is building up a combination of Interests to be used if necessary, as a weapon against Famous Players Canadian Corporation, of which latter company he is at present only the president, but not in control. It is toward Control that his power is being directed and which has been the reason for his diversified film interests, some of which are direct opposition to the company which pays him a salary, a percentage of profits and a bonus!

—EDITOR.

START RECONSTRUCTION

Brockville, Ont. — Donald M. Ross, contractor, has started re-construction of Brockville's Opera House, swept by fire a year ago. Contract for erection of the structural steel to support a new roof has been awarded to the Dominion Bridge Co. of Ottawa.

INSTALS NEW LAMPS

Montreal, Que. — The Westmount Theatre here, operated by United Amusement Corporation has just installed two new Ashcroft Suprex Arc Lamps, in order to provide better lighting for the screen.

"March of Time" Sensational Refugee Scenes, Held Over 2nd Week, Uptown, Toronto

Old Files of the Digest Show History Does Repeat Itself

THE Octopus picture was published in The Digest close to fourteen years ago. Today we change some of the names on the tentacles of the Octopus to read, Equipment, 16 mm. Distribution, Co-operative Booking, Prints, Canadian Film Franchises, Billboards, Magazine, Independent(?) Circuit, Independent(?) Exchange. But what's in a name? It's the same old Octopus Grabber and the suckers you see swimming around are the stooges, be they exhibitors or producer-distributors.

The picture of "It's not a long, long way to Tipperary" was published in The Digest of 1925. It recalls the M.P.T.O.A. convention at Boston, just after Sydney S. Cohen had his battle for the presidency with Jimmy (Mayor) Walker, not overlooking the Al Steffes belligerent front.

Sydney Cohen was a real organizer and a great fighter. So was John Brady. How well we remember John Brady, he was what we call a real Independent. What a battle he had to keep the Madison open for business. What offers he turned down to remain independent.

Then there was Manny Gebertig of the Bluebell. A grand old Independent who always had the courage of his convictions. There was Joe Cohen of the Classic; and there was Mrs. Bloom, (God rest her soul), she was a real person; and "Hold Everything Sammy", none other than Sammy Bloom, her son. In those days Sammy could send out a blast that could be heard all the way to Montreal. There was Harry Ginsler, Sam Lent, Sam Lester, Harry Alexander, Mr. Isbell of the Rex, J. Smith, Frank Worth, The Standard Amusements of Montreal; yes, and the present president of the United Amusements of Montreal, who was then an Independent. Basil Horsfall of His Majesty's, Sherbrooke, Que.; A. Applebaum, A. Polakoff, H. Rotenberg, Roy O'Connor, Billy Summerville, J. Boyd, Bill Baillie, Mr. McMullan of the Castle Theatre at Guelph, Ont., another exhibitor who had to fight for his life to keep his theatre going; H. Rittenberg of the Orpheum; J. Goldstein of the Royal; A. Lester of the King's College; J. C. Mackenzie of the Princess, Seaforth, Ont.; Mrs. B. K. Moore of Grimsby, Ont.; S. Friedman, Woodbine Palace; Mr. McCabe of the Paulton & Carlton; Ben Cross, College Playhouse; Joe Gabarino of the Odeum; S. Ulster of the Victoria; F. Taylor, Ideal; Mr. McCullough, Royal George; Mr. Goldhart; Mr. Mentel; Dick Frieman; Mr. Eton of the Photodrome; Mr. Bruce of the Crystal; Louis Rosenfeld, of Pastime; A. Sturgiss, Sr., Vermont, and W. G. Sturgiss, Crescent Theatre; S. Fine; Mr. Abers; J. Goldstein, Royal; J. Boyd, Model; Mr. Pringle, Kenwood; H. Rittenberg, Orpheum and Empire; Pat Greenlees, Woodstock, etc., etc.

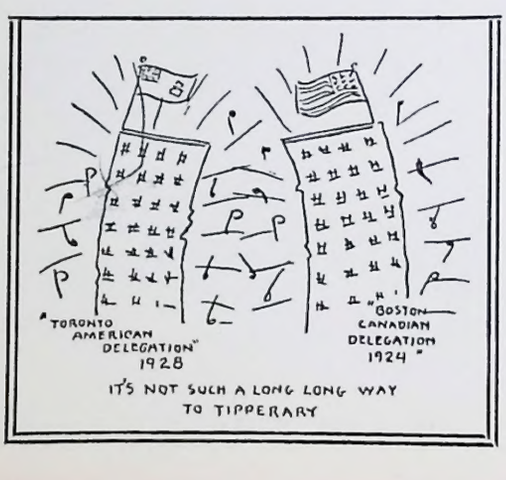
In glancing through the minutes of the Ontario M.P.T.O.A. the editor reads, "Meeting of the M.P.T.O.A., 21 Dundas St., June 16th, 1926. Mr. J. C. Brady in the chair. Large attendance. Amusement Tax discussion. Sec'y (Ray Lewis) to get editorials from Col. Cooper in connection with Amusement Tax. Suggestion by Mr. Alexander and Roy O'Connor to interview vendors of supplies re reduction of prices to members of M.P.T.O.A.

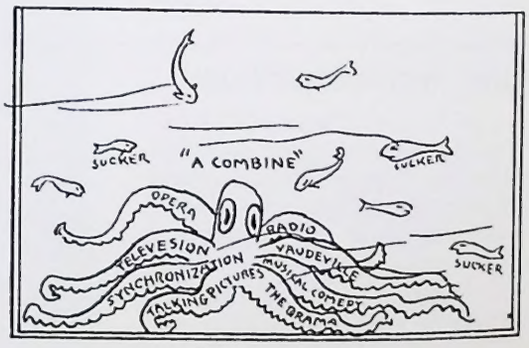
"Moved by Billy Summerville, seconded by Harry Alexander, that a weekly salary of $15.00 be given to the Secretary, Ray Lewis, for looking after the correspondence of the association. Ray Lewis refuses to take any money from the association. She states that she has been carrying on without pay since 1924, the year of the forming of the association, and will continue to give her services without pay.

"Harry Alexander proposes that someone be engaged to assist Miss Lewis with the increasing amount of clerical work of the association. Mr. Alexander mentions a young student at law whom he would like to help out; and Ray Lewis gives her voted salary of $15.00 per week to Nat Taylor, the young student suggested. Harry Alexander moves to have Mr. Taylor appointed to help Miss Lewis, and the motion reads, 'moved by Harry Alexander, that the services of Mr. Nat Taylor be retained for an unstated time subject to a week's notice.' Seconded by Ray Lewis."

From the minutes of a meeting held at the King Edward Hotel, luncheon, in Room G, March 25th, 1924, two years earlier, Mr. Harry Alexander in the chair. "Mr. J. C. Brady admonished members in regard to carrying out information as to proceedings at the meetings."

Minutes from another meeting in 1926. "Mr. Sam Lester asks Miss Lewis why she does not attend meetings as regularly as she did prior to Nat Taylor's association with the organization. Miss Lewis reports that Nat Taylor fails to send her notices of the meetings and that if she had not happened to meet Sam Lester, she would not have known that there was a meeting that day. Nat Taylor states he always sends Miss Lewis a card of the meetings. Miss Lewis tells him that her mail cannot go astray, that she does not get the notices. It is moved by Harry Ginsler, seconded by Harry Alexander that Nat Taylor be instructed to send Ray Lewis a notice of every meeting. Unanimously carried."





The "Timid" Octopus

Fairweather in the Maritimes

By ALICE T. FAIRWEATHER

A SPECIAL treat was arranged for orphans at the Strand Theatre, Saint John, recently, when a committee from the Knights of Columbus planned a showing of suitable films on a Saturday morning. Mr. Frank C. Owens, Chairman of the New Brunswick Board of Motion Picture Censors, was the leading spirit in this entertainment. Films were provided through the Maritime Film Board of Trade.

SAINT JOHN, N.B.

THE history of seventy years of theatrical enterprises and theatres was written for the Anniversary number of the Saint John Telegraph Journal and Evening Times by Walter H. Golding, popular manager of the Capitol Theatre. Mr. Golding was manager of the old Nickel Theatre in Saint John, operated by the Keith-Albee Company, and later of the Imperial Theatre built in 1913, later re-named the Capitol. Mr. Golding has a very wide knowledge of facts in connection with theatres and motion pictures, and his article will bring many recollections of the old days to readers of this seventieth anniversary number of the newspaper. He tells of the various changes in later years speaking particularly of Mr. Fred G. Spencer, whose chain of theatres throughout the Province, means so much to all the towns where they are situated.

DARTMOUTH, N.S.

THE Nova Scotia Hospital, a government institution for the care and treatment of mental diseases at "Mount Hope", just outside the town limits of Dartmouth, has recently installed 35mm. sound equipment. A projection room built in accordance with the N.S. regulations has been constructed and all the arrangements have been approved by Mr. C. H. Bennett of the Nova Scotia Board of Censors.

There is accommodation for two hundred persons in the section of the building where the films will be shown, and inmates attending the performances will be in charge of qualified attendants. It is planned to have weekly showings. At present the hospital has only one machine but it is hoped to have a second one later on. No admission will be charged and the programmes are for the benefit of the shut-ins only.

SAINT JOHN, N.B.

VISITORS in Saint John recently have been Mr. Leo Devaney, General Manager of RKO Distributing Corporation of Canada Ltd., Mr. A. W. Perry, General Manager of Empire-Universal Films Ltd.; Mr. M. Schmalzbach, Special Auditor of the 20th Century-Fox Film Corporation, New York, and Mr. Alfred Myers, special representative of Regal Films Limited from Toronto, Ont. Exhibitors seen recently in Saint John were M. E. Walker of the Gaiety, Halifax, and Imperial, Sackville, N.B.; T. J. O'Rourke of the Gaiety, Minto, N.B., and J. Butler of the Imperial Theatre at Moncton, N.B.

MONCTON, N.B.

AN echo of the season of good wishes was heard recently when it was learned that a number of Moncton and Saint John friends joined together in planning a box of gifts which was sent to Mrs. Emma Davidson, formerly owner and manager of the Imperial Theatre at Moncton, and who has many friends in the Industry. Mrs. Davidson has been prevented by illness from an active life in the Motion Picture world, and is greatly missed.

FREEPORT, N.S.

THE birth of a son to Lloyd Blackford of the Freeport and Tiverton Theatres, is an occasion for great rejoicing in the Blackford family, for the new arrival has five sisters already to welcome him.

SAINT JOHN, N.B.

TWO special showings have been held recently at the Strand Theatre, Saint John, N.B. The first was "Moonlight Sonata", which was screened for the benefit of a musical organization and others interested, the second a programme of shorts and the feature, "Boys Town", which was held for a number of orphans and those in charge of them, Sisters from the Convents and Orphanages in the city.

POSITION WANTED

Projectionist — single man. Experience on Simplex and Motiograph. Will go anywhere. Apply DIGEST — BOX 44

DIGBY, N.S.

THE Capitol Theatre, Digby, N.S., has been taken over by the S.F.A. Limited, whose President is F. G. Spencer, Secretary-Treasurer J. G. Armstrong and General Manager A. A. Fielding. The Capitol was built last Spring, and took the place of the Bijou Dream, operated for many years by C. E. Walker. Until this sale, it was operated by the Valley Amusement Company, with Norman Smith and C. E. Walker, partners in the company. The policy of the theatre will continue as formerly, open six days per week with three changes of programme and Saturday matinees. The seating capacity is about 470 seats.

MINTO, N.B.

MR. T. J. O'ROURKE of the Gaiety Theatre, Minto, N.B., is a theatre manager who is keenly interested in educational matters, and recently he has been appointed on the Board of a newly formed Vocational School which will open at Minto shortly. This School has been arranged for under the Vocational School Act of New Brunswick.

SUSSEX, N.B.

PROVING their interest in British Films, the Royal Chapter of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire at Sussex, New Brunswick, arranged a showing of "Victoria The Great" at the Strand Theatre, with the co-operation of Colin Danson, manager. A special matinee was held during the two days engagement, and the public schools were closed to allow pupils and the staffs to attend the matinee. The train connecting with Norton and Apohaqui, nearby towns, was held over so that people from these places could see this splendidly patriotic film.

SAINT JOHN, N.B.

JAMES A. WHITEBONE, Chief Operator of the Capitol Theatre, Saint John, was elected President of the Saint John Trades and Labor Council for the twelfth year in succession. Mr. Whitebone is also a Commissioner of the city of Saint John, N.B.

Theatre Equipment
and
COMPLETE SUPPLIES

Projectors and Parts.
Motor Generators.
Sound Screens.
Lenses, Carbons, etc.

Coleman Electric Co.
258 Victoria St.
TORONTO, ONT.

EVERYTHING FOR THE THEATRE FROM SHEET TO STREET

Shooting the Stars

"TARZAN IN EXILE", first Tarzan picture at M-G-M since the company acquired complete rights to the Edgar Rice Burroughs' stories, went into production this week with JOHNNY WEISMULLER and MAUREEN O'SULLIVAN in their familiar roles; RICHARD THORPE is directing . . . DARRYL F. ZANUCK, production chief at the 20th CENTURY-FOX studios, this week placed into production another cavalcade of American music, "ROSE OF WASHINGTON SQUARE"; 26 songs, dating from the World War to the present, will be included; co-starred are TYRONE POWER, ALICE FAYE and AL JOLSON, with MARIE WILSON featured . . . . COLUMBIA Pictures this week placed comedian JOE E. BROWN under a two-year contract; according to present schedule Brown's first production under this new agreement will carry the tentative title, "CALL ME JOE" . . . . HELEN WOOD has been seelcted to play opposite JAMES ELLISON in RKO RADIO's "PICARDY MAX", now ready to go before the cameras with CLIFF REID producing, and LES GOODWINS handling the megaphone . . . MARGARET LINDSAY, RONALD REAGAN and GRANT MITCHELL have drawn top roles in "HELL'S KITCHEN", in which WARNER BROS. will star the "DEAD END" KIDS; Miss Lindsay replaces GALE PAGE, the latter having been transferred to one of the leading roles in "FLY AWAY HOME" with FAY BAINTER . . . HAL ROACH Studios' biggest production of the season, "CAPTAIN FURY", has gone before the cameras; with BRIAN AHERNE and VICTOR McLAGLEN co-starred, and JUNE LANG as the chief feminine interest, the UNITED ARTISTS release features a strong supporting cast headed by Paul Lukas, Virginia Field, John Carradine, Margaret Roach, George Zucco, and Lumsden Hare; Hal Roach is personally directing the film . . . the new NELSON EDDY picture, now in production at METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER, with VIRGINIA BRUCE as leading lady, has been retitled "THE DUSTY ROAD"; it was formerly known as "Song of the West" . . . EDDIE CANTOR left New York for the West Coast this week where he will begin preparations for his first starring feature for RKO RADIO, "THE FLYING YORKSHIREMAN"; GEORGE HAIGHT will produce under the supervision of PANDRO S. BERMAN . . . PAUL LUKAS has been signed by WARNER BROS. for the part of the chief Nazi spy in America, in "CONFESSIONS OF A NAZI SPY", starring EDWARD G. ROBINSON; LYA LYS, newly-signed Russian star, will play the feminine lead . . . Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's "THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES" is now in its third week before the cameras under SIDNEY LANFIELD'S direction; heading the huge cast are RICHARD GREENE, BASIL RATHBONE, WENDY BARRIE, NIGEL BRUCE, LIONEL ATWILL and JOHN CARRADINE . . . SIDNEY BLACKMER and C. HENRY GORDON have been engaged for feature character roles by COLUMBIA in "SABOTAGE", JACK HOLT'S latest starring picture which LEWIS D. COLLINS is bringing to the screen; KATHERINE DE MILLE is the star's leading lady, and RALPH MORGAN and PAUL EVERTON are prominently cast.

Leslie Howard, who has been signed by David O. Selznick for the role of "Ashley", in the production, "Gone With The Wind".

Trans-Canada Showings

TORONTO

AVENUE
"Club des Femmes" (G-N), starring Danielle Darrieux, and "Dodsworth" (Goldwyn-U.A.), starring Walter Huston and Ruth Chatterton.

IMPERIAL
2nd week. "Angels with Dirty Faces" (Warners), starring James Cagney and Pat O'Brien.

LOEW'S
"The Young in Heart" (Selznick-U.A.), starring Janet Gaynor, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and Paulette Goddard, and "Spring Madness" (M-G-M), starring Lew Ayres and Maureen O'Sullivan.

SHEA'S
"Thanks for Everything" (20th Century-Fox), starring Adolphe Menjou, Jack Oakie and Jack Haley. Also stage show.

UPTOWN
"The Beachcomber" (Paramount), starring Charles Laughton and Elsa Lanchester.

MONTREAL

CAPITOL
"Dawn Patrol" (Warners), starring Errol Flynn.

LOEW'S
"Spring Madness" (M-G-M), starring Lew Ayres and Maureen O'Sullivan. Also stage show.

ORPHEUM
2nd week. "Duke of West Point" (Edward Small-U.A.), starring Louis Hayward and Tom Brown, and "Mr. Doodle Kicks Off" (RKO Radio), starring Joe Penner.

PALACE
3rd week. "Sweethearts" (M-G-M), starring Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy.

PRINCESS
"The Beachcomber" (Paramount), starring Charles Laughton and Elsa Lanchester.

SAINT JOHN

CAPITOL
"The Great Waltz" (M-G-M), starring Luise Rainer and Fernand Gravet, with Miliza Korjus.

EMPIRE
"Goldwyn Follies" (Goldwyn-U.A.), starring Adolphe Menjou, Andrea Leeds, Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy, and "Extortion" (Columbia), with Scott Colton.

MAYFAIR
"Room Service" (RKO Radio), starring the Marx Bros., and "Fugitives for a Night" (RKO Radio), with Frank Albertson.

REGENT
"Five of a Kind" (20th Century-Fox), starring Jean Hersholt and the Dionne Quintuplets, and "King of Alcatraz" (Paramount), with Lloyd Nolan.

STRAND
"There's Always a Woman" (Columbia), starring Joan Blondell and Melvyn Douglas, and "Meet the Boy Friend" (Republic), with Carol Hughes.

WINNIPEG

CAPITOL
3 day hold-over: "Sweethearts" (M-G-M), starring Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy. Started Thursday: "Angels with Dirty Faces" (Warners), starring James Cagney and Pat O'Brien.

GAIETY
"Too Hot to Handle" (M-G-M), starring Clark Gable and Myrna Loy.

GARRICK
4th week. "You Can't Take It With You" (Columbia), starring Jean Arthur, James Stewart, Lionel Barrymore and Edward Arnold.

RIALTO
"Dead End" (Goldwyn-U.A.), starring Sylvia Sidney, Joel McCrea, Humphrey Bogart and the "Dead End" Kids, and "I'm From the City" (RKO Radio), starring Joe Penner.

CALGARY

CAPITOL
"The Citadel" (M-G-M British), starring Robert Donat and Rosalind Russell.

GRAND
"Wake Up and Live" (20th Century-Fox), starring Alice Faye, Walter Winchell and Ben Bernie, and "Juvenile Court" (Columbia), with Paul Kelly and Rita Hayworth.

PALACE
"Kentucky" (20th Century-Fox), starring Loretta Young and Richard Greene.

STRAND
"My Lucky Star" (20th Century-Fox), starring Sonja Henie and Richard Greene, and "Straight, Place and Show" (20th Century-Fox), starring the Ritz Bros.

VARIETY
"Everybody Sing" (M-G-M), starring Judy Garland and Fanny Brice, and "Crime Ring" (RKO Radio), with Allan Lane and Frances Mercer.

VANCOUVER

BEACON
"Crime Takes a Holiday" (Columbia), starring Jack Holt, and "Criminals of the Air" (Columbia), with Charles Quigley. Also stage show.

CAMBIE
"Alexander's Ragtime Band" (20th Century-Fox), starring Tyrone Power, Alice Faye and Don Ameche.

DUNBAR
"White Banners" (Warners), starring Claude Rains, Fay Bainter, Jackie Cooper and Bonita Granville, and "She's Got Everything" (RKO Radio), starring Gene Raymond and Ann Sothern.

PLAZA
"The Young in Heart" (Selznick-U.A.), starring Janet Gaynor, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and Paulette Goddard.